

## General Overview

This booklet is a simplified, informative summary of the 2005 Alaska subsistence spring/summer migratory bird harvest regulations contained in 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 92. There may be errors or omissions that have not been identified and regulatory changes that occur after printing. This booklet is intended as an informational guide only. To be certain of current regulations, refer to the official Code of Federal Regulations and the Federal Register publications, with pertinent parts available at the website <http://alaska.fws.gov/ambcc/regulations.htm>

These regulations will become effective upon publication of the Final Rule in the Federal Register. These regulations apply to the spring and summer subsistence harvest of migratory birds in Alaska, **valid through August 31, 2005**. The Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (Council) reviews and recommends needed modifications of these regulations on an annual basis.

Migratory bird hunting from September 1, 2005 through March 10, 2006 is managed under separate Federal regulations in 50 CFR Part 20 and State regulations in 5AAC.

For More Information Contact: Office of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1011 E. Tudor Rd., MS 201, Anchorage, AK 99503

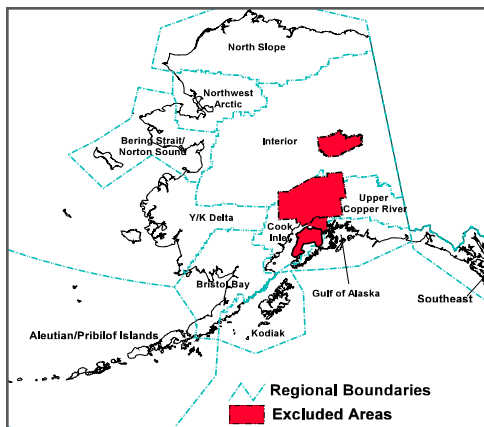
Voice: toll-free (877) 229-2344, Fax: (907) 786-3641, Email: [ambcc@fws.gov](mailto:ambcc@fws.gov)

## Who is Eligible to Participate?

If you are a **permanent** resident of a village within a included harvest area, you are eligible to harvest migratory birds and eggs for subsistence purposes.

## Included areas

Village areas located within the Alaska Peninsula, Kodiak Archipelago, the Aleutian Islands, or in areas north and west of the Alaska Range are subsistence harvest areas. The communities of: Gulkana, Gakona, Tazlina, Copper Center, Mentasta Lake, Chitina, Chistochina, Tatitlek, Chenega, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Tyonek and Hoonah were added in 2004. The communities of Craig, Hydaburg and Yakutat were added in 2005.



## Excluded areas

Persons living in the Anchorage-Matanuska-Susitna or Fairbanks North Star boroughs, or the Kenai Peninsula roaded area are excluded from participating. In the Gulf of Alaska, Copper River Region, Cook Inlet or Southeast Alaska, only residents of previously listed included communities can participate in the harvest.

Anyone can petition the Council to change a community's exclusion/inclusion status. The petition must address how the area does or does not meet the qualifying criteria for inclusion. Upon receipt, the Council will seek regional input and then submit a recommendation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to either include or exclude the community from the subsistence harvest.

## Subsistence Harvest Areas

All lands within the included areas are open for harvest, although special requirements apply to National Park Service lands, as explained below.

## Special Requirements for NPS Lands

Subsistence use on National Park Service lands is restricted to only those national monuments parks, and preserves open to subsistence. Glacier Bay National Park, Katmai National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, "old" McKinley National Park and Sitka National Historical Park are closed to subsistence. National Park Service regulations govern which communities or individual residents qualify to subsistence harvest for specific National Parks and Monuments (50 CFR Part 13, Subparts A, B, and C). For more information about National Park Service lands contact: National Park Service, 2525 Gambell St., Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 257-2649.

## Use and Possession of Migratory Birds

**You may not sell, offer for sale, purchase, or offer to purchase migratory birds, their parts, or eggs.**

- **Eligible persons.** You may take birds for human consumption only. Harvest and possession of birds must be done using nonwasteful taking. Nonedible byproducts of birds taken for food may be used for other purposes, except that **taxidermy is not allowed.**
- **Noneligible persons.** You may receive portions of birds or their eggs not kept for human consumption from eligible persons only if you have a valid U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service permit for scientific research or education.

## **Required Licenses and Stamps**

Eligible subsistence users must possess and comply with any licenses or stamps required by Federal and State regulations when participating in the subsistence spring/summer migratory bird harvest. All waterfowl hunters 16 years or older are required to have a current State and Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp. Federal stamps are available at most post offices, National Wildlife Refuge offices, and some stores; or may be purchased by calling: 1-800-852-4897 or online at <http://www.duckstamp.com>. State stamps are available from most State license vendors, ADF&G offices or online at: <http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license>. Both Federal and State stamps must be signed in ink across the face and must be carried at all times while hunting waterfowl and are not required for hunting non-waterfowl species.

## **Shooting Hours**

The harvest is open 24-hours per day during the dates listed under each region.

## **Prohibited Harvest Methods and Means**

You may not use the following devices and methods to harvest migratory birds:

- Swivel guns, shotguns larger than 10 gauge, punt guns, battery guns, machine guns, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, or stupefying substances
- Shooting from a sinkbox or low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Hunting from any type of aircraft
- Using live birds as decoys, except for auklets on Diomedes or St. Lawrence islands
- Hunting with the aid of recorded bird calls
- Using any type of vehicle, aircraft, or boat to concentrate, drive, rally, or stir up any migratory birds, except boats may be used to position a hunter
- The possession or use of lead or other toxic shot while hunting all migratory birds
- Shooting from or across any road or highway
- Using an air boat or jet ski for hunting or transporting hunters (Interior & Bristol Bay Regions only)

# Region-Specific Regulations (Open Seasons)

## Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Region

### Northern Unit (Pribilof Islands)

Season: April 2- June 30

Closure: July 1 - August 31

### Central Unit (Port Moller [Alaska Peninsula] west to include Unalaska Is)

Note: Tundra Swan hunting and egg gathering closed in Units 9(D) & 10.

Season: April 2- June 15 and July 16 - August 31

Closure: June 16 - July 15

### Western Unit (Umnak Island west to include Attu Island)

Season: April 2 - July 15 and August 16 - August 31.

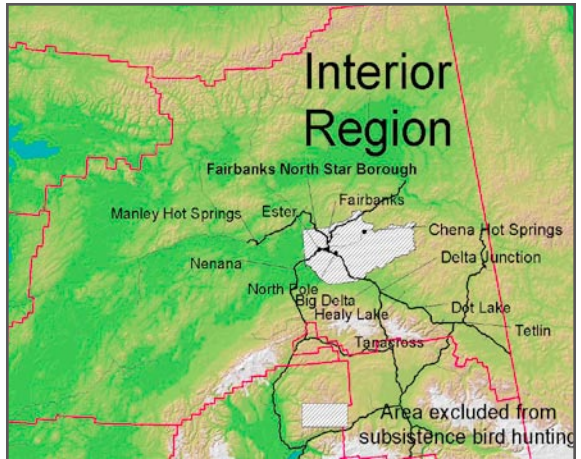
Closure: July 16 - August 15.

## Interior Region

Season: April 2 - June 14 and  
July 16 - August 31

May 1 - June 14 for egg  
gathering only

Closure: June 15 - July 15



## Northwest Arctic Region

Season: April 2- August 31 (hunting - in general)

May 20 - June 9 for waterfowl egg gathering

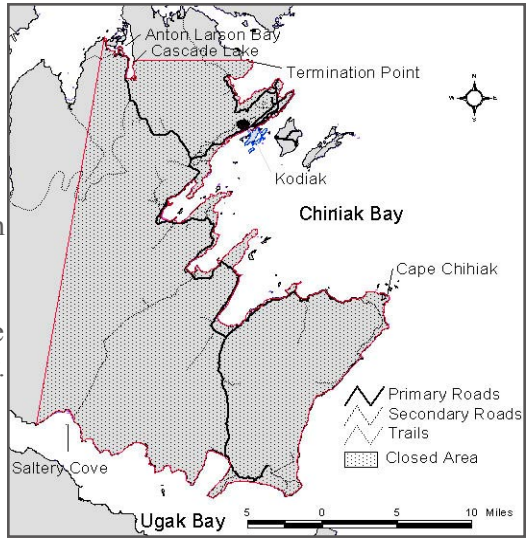
July 3 - July 12 for seabird egg gathering

July 1 - July 31 for hunting molting/non-nesting waterfowl

Closure: June 10 - August 14, except for taking seabird eggs and molting/non-nesting waterfowl

## Kodiak Archipelago Region

The closed area consists of all lands and water (including exposed tidelands) east of a line extending from Crag Point in the north to the west end of Saltery Cove in the south and all lands and water south of a line extending from Termination Point along the north side of Cascade Lake extending to Anton Larson Bay. Marine waters adjacent to the closed area are closed to harvest within 500 feet from the water's edge. The offshore islands are open to harvest.



Season: April 2- June 20 and  
July 22 -Aug 31, general season  
May 1 - June 20 for egg gathering

Closure: June 21 - July 21

## Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta Region

Season: April 2- August 31

Closure: 30-day closure dates to be announced by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Regional Director or his designee, after consultation with local subsistence users and the Waterfowl Conservation Committee.

## Bristol Bay Region

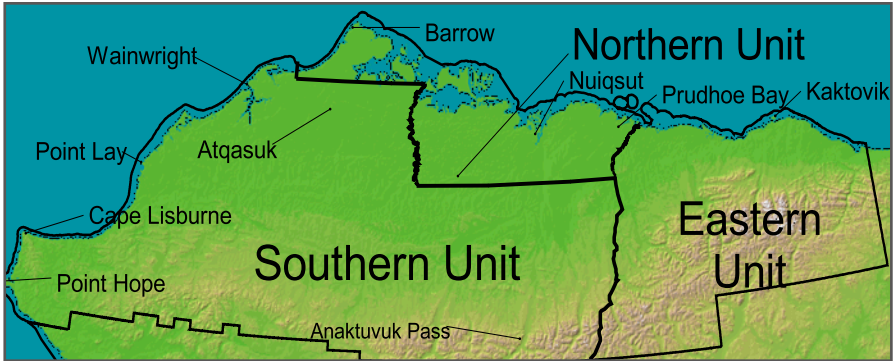
Season: April 2- June 14 and July 16 - Aug 31 general season  
April 2-July 15 for seabird egg gathering only

Closure: June 15 - July 15 general season

July 16 - August 31 for seabird egg gathering

## North Slope Region

**All Units: Yellow-billed loons** - these loons may be caught inadvertently in fishing nets and kept for subsistence use. Individuals must report each yellow-billed loon caught to the North Slope Borough Dept. of Wildlife Mgt. by the end of the season.



### **Eastern Unit** (East of east bank of the Sagavanirktok River)

Season: April 2 - June 19 and July 20 - August 31

**Closure: June 20 - July 19**

**Southern Unit** (Southwestern North Slope regional boundary east to Peard Bay, everything west of the longitude line 158°30'S and south of the latitude line 70°45'E to west bank of the Ikpiqpuq River, and everything south of the latitude line 69°45'E between the west bank of the Ikpiqpuq River to the east bank of Sagavinirktok River)

Season: April 2 - June 29 and July 30 - Aug 31 for seabirds  
April 2 - June 19 and July 20 - Aug 31 for all other birds

**Closure: June 30 - July 29 for seabirds and June 20 - July 19 for all other birds**

**Northern Unit** (At Peard Bay, everything east of the longitude line 158°30'S and north of the latitude line 70°45'E to west bank of the Ikpiqpuq River, and everything north of the latitude line 69°45'E between the west bank of the Ikpiqpuq River to the east bank of the Sagavinirktok River)

Season: April 2-June 6 and July 7-August 31 for king & common eiders  
April 2 - June 15 and July 16 - August 31 for all other birds

**Closure: June 7- July 6 for king & common eiders**  
**June 16 - July 15 for all other birds**

## Bering Strait/Norton Sound Region

### Stebbins/St. Michael Area (Point Romanof to Canal Point)

Season: April 15 - June 14 and July 16 - August 31

Closure: June 15 - July 15

### Remainder of the region

Season: April 2 - June 14 and July 16 - Aug 31 for waterfowl

April 2 - July 19 and August 21 - August 31 for all other birds

Closure: June 15 - July 15 for waterfowl

July 20 - August 20 for all other birds

## Gulf of Alaska Region

### Prince William Sound Area

Harvest area: Unit 6 (D)

Eligible communities: Chenega Bay and Tatitlek

Season: April 2 - May 31 and July 1 - Aug 31

Closure: June 1 - 30



### Kachemak Bay Area

Harvest area: Unit 15[C] South of a line connecting the tip of Homer Spit to the mouth of Fox River

Eligible Communities: Port Graham, Nanwalek

Season: April 2 - May 31 and July 1 - August 31.

Closure: June 1 - 30.



## Cook Inlet

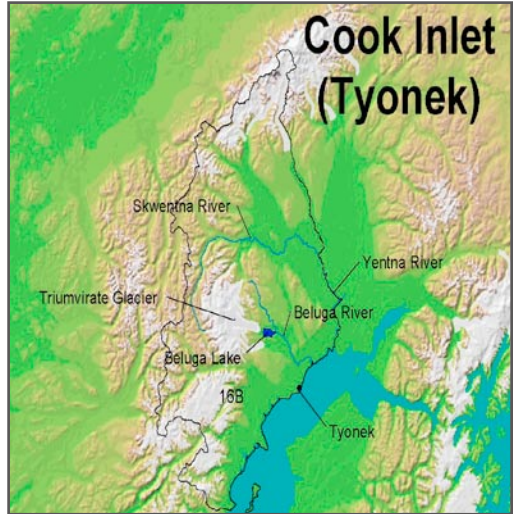
**Harvest Area:** portions of Unit 16(B)

**Eligible community:** Tyonek

Season: April 2-May 31: That portion of Unit 16(B) south of the Skwentna River and west of the Yentna River and

August 1-31: That portion of Unit 16(B) south of the Beluga River, Beluga Lake, and the Triumvirate Glacier.

**Closure:** June 1 - July 31



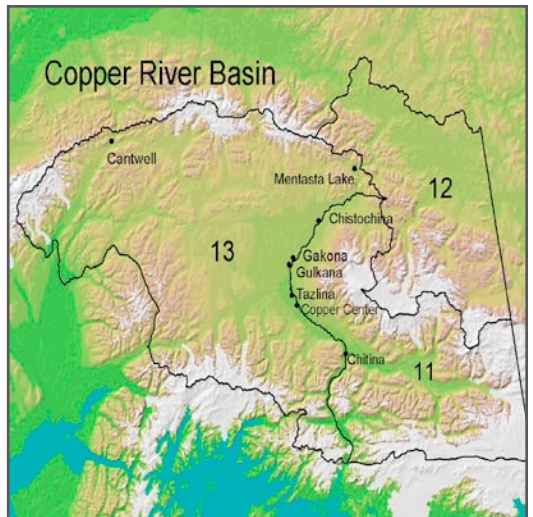
## Upper Copper River Region

**Harvest Area:** State of Alaska Game Management Units 11 and 13

**Eligible communities:** Gulkana, Chitina, Tazlina, Copper Center, Gakona, Mentasta Lake, Chistochina and Cantwell

Season: April 15 - May 26 and June 27 - August 31.

**Closure:** May 27 - June 26.



**Note:** The Copper River Basin Communities listed above are also eligible to hunt in Unit 12 using the Interior Region seasons.



## Regulations for

### Communities Restricted to Egg Gathering Only

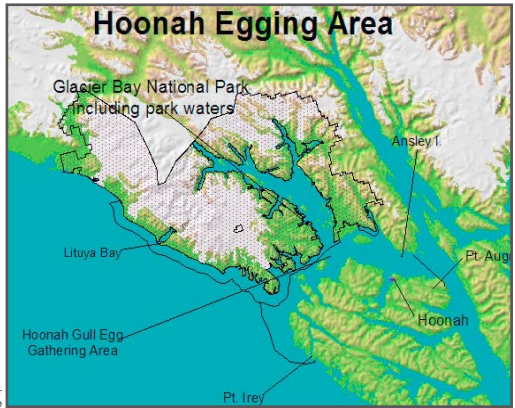
#### **Southeast Alaska Region**

##### **Community of Hoonah**

**Harvest area:** National Forest lands in Icy Strait and Cross Sound including Middle Pass Rock near the Inian Islands, Table Rock in Cross Sound, and other traditional locations on the coast of Yakobi Island. All lands and waters within Glacier Bay National Park are closed to harvest.

Season: glaucous-winged gull egg gathering only: May 15 - June 30

Closure: July 1 - August 31



##### **Communities of Craig and Hydaburg**

**Harvest area:** small islands west of Prince of Wales Island within Unit 2; including Warren Island south to Cape Chacon

Season: glaucous-winged gull egg gathering only: May 15 - June 30

Closure: July 1 - August 31

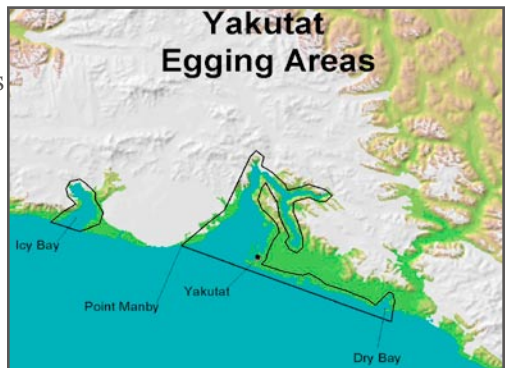


##### **Community of Yakutat**

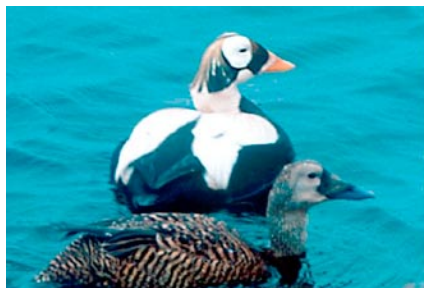
**Harvest area:** Icy Bay [Icy Cape to Pt. Riou], and coastal lands and islands bordering the Gulf of Alaska from Pt. Manby southeast to and including Dry Bay.

Season: glaucous-winged gull egg gathering only: May 15 - June 30

Closure: July 1 - August 31

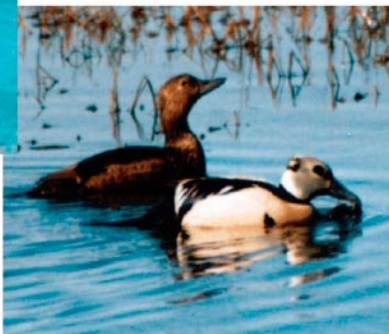


## Migratory birds closed for subsistence hunting and egg gathering



### **Spectacled Eiders**

qaugeq, qavaasuk  
lyegaatelek



### **Steller's Eiders**

caqiar, caqiaraq  
ijniqauqtuq, aglekesegaq  
igniqaqtuq



### **Emperor Geese**

nacaullek, leglhleq  
ligliqpak  
mitilgruaq



### **Aleutian Cackling Geese** (Semidi Islands Only)

## Migratory birds closed for subsistence hunting and egg gathering



**Tundra Swan**  
(Unit 9D and 10 only)



**Yellow-billed Loon**  
tuullik, tuutlik  
nangqwaalek

**Closed in all regions - See exception in North Slope regulations**

## Migratory birds closed for egg gathering



**Cackling Geese**  
tuutangayak  
tuutangayagpak  
lagiq, iqsragutilik

**Brant closed only in Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta North Slope**



**Black Brant**  
neqlernaq, leqlernaq  
laqeciagaq, niglingaq

# Migratory Birds Open for Harvest

You may harvest birds or gather eggs from the following species within all open regions, except southeast Alaska.

## Waterfowl

- Greater White-fronted Goose
- Snow Goose
- Lesser Canada Goose
- Taverner's Cackling Goose
- Aleutian Cackling Goose - except closed in the Semidi Islands
- Cackling Goose - except no egg gathering is permitted anywhere.
- Black Brant - except no egg gathering in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and the North Slope.
- Tundra Swan - except closed in Units 9(D) and 10.
- Gadwall
- Eurasian Wigeon
- American Wigeon
- Mallard
- Blue-winged Teal
- Northern Shoveler
- Northern Pintail
- Green-winged Teal
- Canvasback
- Redhead
- Ring-necked Duck.
- Greater Scaup
- Lesser Scaup
- King Eider
- Common Eider
- Harlequin Duck
- Surf Scoter
- White-winged Scoter
- Black Scoter
- Long-tailed Duck
- Bufflehead
- Common Goldeneye
- Barrow's Goldeneye
- Hooded Merganser

- Common Merganser
- Red-breasted Merganser

## Waterbirds

- Red-throated Loon
- Arctic Loon
- Pacific Loon
- Common Loon
- Yellow-billed Loon - Open only in the Noth Slope region - See regional regulations for details on harvest limitations and reporting requirements.
- Horned Grebe
- Red-necked Grebe

## Seabirds

- Northern Fulmar
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Pelagic Cormorant
- Pomarine Jaeger
- Parasitic Jaeger
- Long-tailed Jaeger
- Bonaparte's Gull
- Mew Gull
- Herring Gull
- Slaty-backed Gull
- Glaucous-winged Gull
- Glaucous Gull
- Sabine's Gull
- Black-legged Kittiwake
- Red-legged Kittiwake
- Ivory Gull
- Arctic Tern
- Aleutian Tern
- Common Murre
- Thick-billed Murre
- Black Guillemot

## Seabirds (Cont.)

- Pigeon Guillemot
- Cassin's Auklet
- Parakeet Auklet
- Least Auklet
- Whiskered Auklet
- Crested Auklet
- Rhinoceros Auklet
- Horned Puffin
- Tufted Puffin

## Cranes

- Sandhill Crane

## Owls

- Great Horned Owl
- Snowy Owl

## Shorebirds

- Black-bellied Plover
- Common Ringed Plover
- Black Oystercatcher
- Greater Yellowlegs
- Lesser Yellowlegs
- Spotted Sandpiper
- Ruddy Turnstone
- Long-billed Dowitcher
- Bar-tailed Godwit

- Semipalmated Sandpiper
- Western Sandpiper
- Least Sandpiper
- Baird's Sandpiper
- Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
- Dunlin
- Wilson's Snipe
- Red Phalarope
- Red-necked phalarope

## Note Changes in Bird Common Names:

- Taverner's Canada Goose = Taverner's Cackling Goose
- Aleutian Canada Goose = Aleutian Cackling Goose
- Cackling Canada Goose = Cackling Goose
- Common Snipe = Wilson's Snipe

## Report Your Bird Bands!

Take the time to report any bird bands found on your harvested birds. These markers give biologists a wealth of information on bird movements, timing, life span, migration routes and much more. You will receive a thank-you certificate including information on the history of your bird. You do not have to give up the band to make a report. Simply call toll-free 1-800-327-BAND (2236) with the band number or go to the website: <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/homepage/call800.htm> or report it to your nearest ADF&G or National Wildlife Refuge office.





## Legislative History

As early as 1916, Migratory Bird Treaties with Canada and Mexico failed to recognize Alaska's traditional spring/summer subsistence harvest. After years of negotiations, the treaties were amended in 1997 to recognize this customary and traditional harvest. The amendment set the stage for the creation of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council and the 2003 harvest regulations. The Council, which includes representatives from the Alaska Native community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acting as equal partners, was formed with the specific purpose of developing "recommendations related to the spring/summer subsistence harvest of migratory birds." Eleven regional management bodies were created to provide crucial local input to the Council in developing the bird harvest list, regional season dates, methods and means and other annual regulatory recommendations. Additional information on the Migratory Bird Treaties, the Council, harvest surveys, press releases and hunter bulletins can be found at: <http://alaska.fws.gov/ambcc/index.htm>

## Definitions

**Eligible person** means a permanent resident of an included village or community within a subsistence harvest area.

**Immediate family** means spouse, children, parents, grandchildren, grandparents, and siblings.

**Game Management Unit**, also referred to simply as Unit, means 1 of the 26 geographical areas listed in the codified State of Alaska hunting and trapping regulations and on maps of the Alaska State Game Management Units.

**Non-wasteful taking** means making a reasonable effort to retrieve all birds killed or wounded, and retaining such birds in possession from the place where taken to the hunter's permanent or temporary place of residence, or to the location where the birds will be consumed or preserved for food.

**Permanent resident** means any person whose primary, permanent home for the previous 12 months was within a subsistence harvest area in Alaska. Whenever absent from this primary permanent home, the person has the intention of returning to it. Factors demonstrating a person's primary, permanent home may include: the address on your Alaska Permanent Fund application; an Alaska driver's license or hunting/fishing license; voter registration; location of residences owned, rented or leased residence of spouse, minor children or dependents; tax documents; not claiming residence in another location for any purpose; or membership of a tribe in a subsistence harvest area.



**Seabirds** refers to all bird species within the families Alcidae, Laridae, Procellariidae, and Phalacrocoracidae (in general: murre, puffins, auklets, fulmars and cormorants).

**Shorebirds** refers to all bird species within the families Charadriidae, Haematopodidae, and Scolopacidae (in general: sandpipers, plovers, oystercatchers, dunlin, godwits, turnstones, knots, and phalaropes).

**Subsistence** means the customary and traditional harvest or use of migratory birds and their eggs by eligible users for their own nutritional and other essential needs.

**Subsistence harvest** areas encompass customary and traditional hunting areas or villages in Alaska that qualify for a spring or summer subsistence harvest of migratory birds under this part.

**Taxidermy** refers to birds preserved and mounted in life-like representations. Taxidermy does not include preserving bird parts to be integrated into traditional arts and crafts, such as use of skin or feathers for the making of clothing or ceremonial fans.

**Waterfowl** refers to all bird species within the family Anatidae (in general: ducks, geese and swans).

**Village (or Community)** is defined as a permanent settlement with one or more year-round residents.



Sandhill Crane hatchling. Photo by Bill West, USFWS

As part of “Conservation through Co-Management,” each region has established midseason harvest closures during the principle nesting seasons.

# Who to Contact for Your Area:

## Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council - Regional Representatives

### **Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta Region**

Myron Naneng  
P.O. Box 219  
Bethel, AK 99559  
Tel: Wk 907/543-7300  
Fax: 907-543-3596  
Email: mnaneng@avcp.org

### **Bristol Bay Region**

Ralph Andersen  
P.O. Box 310  
Dillingham, AK 99576  
Tel: 907/842-5257; Fax: 907/842-5932  
E-mail: E-mail: randersens@bbna.com

### **Gulf of Alaska Region**

Gary Kompkoff  
P.O. Box 171  
Tatitlek, AK 99603  
Tel: 907/325-2311

### **Upper Copper River Region**

Joeneal Hicks  
Box 241  
Gakona, AK 99586  
Tel: 907/822-3503; Fax: 907/822-5179  
E-mail: jhicks@tribalnet.org

### **Bering Straits/Norton Sound Region**

Austin Ahmasuk  
Box 948  
Nome, AK 99762  
Tel: 907/443-5231, Fax: 443-4452  
E-mail: sub.rec@kawerak.org

### **Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Region**

Peter Devine  
c/o Qagan Tayagungin Tribal Office  
Sand Point, AK 99661  
Tel: 907/383-5616, Fax: 907/383-5814

### **Kodiak Archipelago Region**

Herman Squartsoff  
P.O. Box 189  
Ouzinkie, AK 99644  
Tel: 907/680-2332, Fax: 680-2332  
Email: sicharters@hotmail.com

### **Northwest Arctic Region**

Enoch Shiedt, Sr.  
Box 256  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
Tel: 907/442-7690; Fax: 907/442-7678  
E-mail: eshiedt@manilaq.org

### **North Slope Region**

Charles D.N. Brower  
P.O. Box 69  
Barrow, AK 99723  
Tel: 907/852-0350; Fax: 907/852-0351/8948  
E-mail: charles.brower@north-slope.org

### **Interior Region**

Michael Smith  
122 First Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Tel: 907/452-8251ext. 3256; fax: 907/459-3851  
E-mail: michael.smith@tanachiefs.org

### **Southeast Alaska Region**

Gordon Jackson  
320 W. Willoughby Ave., Suite 300  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Tel: 907/463-7121; Fax: 907/463-7316  
E-mail: gjackson@ccthita.org